

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

AGENDA

MARCH 25, 1969

1. Approval of the minutes of the meetings of Jan. 27 and 28, 1969. (2)
2. Presentation of plaques to A.J. Buquet and H.B. Fairchild. (2)
3. Approval to exercise five year option of the Southern Oyster Shell Milling Corporation's Pointe-au-Fer Shell Lease. (3)
4. Approval of issuance of permit for dredging approximately 15,000 cubic yards of fill material from Lake Charles by Sam. D. Sonnier. (4)
5. Extension of 1968-69 Calcasieu Lake (Cameron Parish portion) Oyster Season. (5)
6. Approval of Shell Pipe Line Corp. request for a right-of-way to install pipeline across the Salvador G.M.A., St. Charles Par. (6)
7. Approval for Sea Robin Pipeline Company to conduct surveys on the State Wildlife Refuge. (7)
8. Appointment of Commission representatives to attend the Mineral Board's Fact Finding Committee Meeting on March 26th. (8)
9. Denial of Tensas Parish Police Jury to have creel limits changed in Lake Bruin, Tensas Parish, La. (9)
10. Acceptance of completion of fencing contract with Hurricane Fence Company of New Orleans, La. on Spring Bayou G.M.A. (9)
11. Approval of reassignment of State Agency Lease 5187, Tract No. 10899, Russell Sage G.M.A., Ouachita Parish, original lease assigned to Fred A. Kadane/ (10)
12. Acceptance of completion of contract for the construction of the Spring Bayou GMA Headquarter Building by Edgar A. Williams, of Alexandria, La., contractor. (11)
13. Opening of Lake Verett for Commercial Fishing, March 29 - April 13. (12)

Agenda - Cont'd.

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14. Instruct Director to investigate and research the effects of the Mississippi River Diversion channel into Texas. (13)
15. Approval to request the La. Div. of Admin. to readvertise for the issuance of the contract on the printing of the La. Conservationist. (16)
16. Report on the Waddill Tract. (17)
17. Comment of Jimmie Thompson on age 65 retirement. (18)
18. Announcement of the next Commission meeting to be held on the Fifth Tuesday, due to the Shrimp meeting on April 24th. (18)

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

MARCH 25, 1969

The regular monthly meetings of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission were held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on Monday and Tuesday, March 24 and 25, 1969.

Monday's meeting consisted of conferences with the Division Chiefs and the preparation of the agenda for the Tuesday meeting. Monday's meeting was an informal session, held in the Director's Office, at 2:00 P.M.

The formal public meeting was held on Tuesday, March 25, 1969 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 226 of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission Building, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Members present at both meetings were:

Jerry G. Jones, Chairman

H. Clay Wright, Vice-Chairman

Clarence A. Guidry

Hobson Norris

Jimmie Thompson

James L. Winfree

ABSENT: None

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. by stating that the first order of business on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meetings of the Commission held on January 27 and 28, 1969.

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Mr. Wright, and unanimously adopted, the reading of the minutes of the meetings of January 27 and 28, 1969 were dispensed with and approved as previously submitted to the Commission.

Chairman Jones requested Mr. Hobson Morris to take the floor for the next presentation.

Mr. Morris stated it was indeed an honor for him to make the presentation of a plaque to Mr. A. J. Buquet, in behalf of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. The plaque was presented as a token of appreciation by the Commission to Mr. A. J. Buquet for eight (8) years of service rendered to the Commission as a Board Member.

Mr. Buquet thanked the Commission for the gift and said he would always treasure it. He then introduced his wife, two daughters and grand children to the audience and Commission by stating that his family have always been present with him whether it be during good or bad times.

Chairman Jones then requested Mr. Jimmie Thompson to preside in making the next presentation.

Mr. Thompson requested Mr. H. B. Fairchild to stand beside him while he made a few complimentary remarks relative to the services

Mr. Fairchild rendered to the Commission during his tenure as a Board Member.

Mr. Fairchild praised the Commission and also stated that it was a pleasure for him to have served on the Commission.

Chairman Jones next requested Dr. Lyle St. Amant to explain the Radcliff Materials, Inc. request.

Dr. St. Amant stated that an application had been received from Radcliff Materials, Inc., a Division of Southern Industries, to exercise an option of five (5) years for their Southern Oyster Shell Milling Corporation Pointe-au-Fer Shell Lease. Dr. St. Amant stated that the request submitted by Radcliff Materials, Inc. has been examined and determined to be legally correct and therefore, recommended Commission approval for this option to be exercised on its proper due date.

On motion of Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Guidry, the following resolution was Unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the original Southern Oyster Shell Milling Corporation Pointe-au-Fer Shell Lease dated March 22, 1955, included a single five (5) year option which was exercised in 1965, and

WHEREAS, by Commission action, thereafter a second five year option was granted to said company in order to meet the maximum requirements for options set forth under R. S. 56:431 and to make the lease comparable to similar leases.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that permission is hereby granted to Radcliff

Materials, Inc., a Division of Southern Industries, to exercise the option of a second five year period to become effective in 1970, upon the expiration of the present option.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Dr. St. Amant then stated that the next request received was from Mr. Sam Sonnier for permission to dredge approximately 15,000 yards of fill material from Lake Charles. Mr. Sonnier is in the process of constructing a motel and marina at this location and requires fill material at the site. Dr. St. Amant said the application has been examined and found to meet all of the requirements as set forth by the Commission; therefore, he recommended Commission approval on same.

On motion of Mr. Norris, seconded by Mr. Kyle, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Mr. Sam D. Sonnier of Lake Charles is presently in the process of constructing a motel and marina which will require the dredging of fill material for the completion of said construction.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Mr. Sam D. Sonnier of Lake Charles, Louisiana to dredge approximately 15,000 yards of fill material from Lake Charles. Said permit shall expire upon completion of construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Dr. St. Amant then stated the next item on the agenda is a request for the extension of the oyster season in Cameron Parish portion of Calcasieu Lake. Dr. St. Amant said Commission personnel have examined the oyster reefs in the area and it was found that there are still available a considerable number of legal size oysters in the West Cove Area. Therefore, Dr. St. Amant requested Commission approval for the season to be extended from March 31, 1969 through sunset on Friday, April 18, 1969.

On motion of Mr. Byle, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission did receive requests for an extension of the oyster season in the Cameron Parish portion of Calcasieu Lake for an additional period of two to four weeks, and

WHEREAS, Commission personnel have examined said area finding there to be still available a considerable number of legal size oysters in the West Cove area, and

WHEREAS, it is also a fact that there has been commercial utilization of these oysters during this season largely in conformance with the regulations established by this Commission.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the oyster season, previously fixed by

the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission during the period of November 15 through sunset, March 31, 1969, be extended through sunset on Friday, April 18, 1969, after which the season shall be officially closed.

Chairman Jones then called on Mr. Allan Ensminger for the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Ensminger then explained that the Shell Pipe Line Corporation has requested permission for a right-of-way to install a pipeline across the Salvador Wildlife Management Area, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. The proposal was examined by Commission personnel and found to be feasible provided the Shell Pipe Line Corporation adhere to certain terms and conditions as stipulated in the agreement, which shall be binding upon said company for the protection and benefit of the wildlife and fisheries resources in the area.

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Mr. Winfree, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Shell Pipe Line Corporation proposes to construct a 10-inch common carrier products pipeline from Ysclokey, in St. Bernard Parish, to Norco, in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, the route of which will cross lands owned by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Shell Pipe Line Corporation has made application to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for a right-of-way across said land.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Shell Pipe Line Corporation for a right-of-way across the Salvador Wildlife Management Area, in that portion more particularly described as follows: A certain tract of land located in St. Charles Parish, Section 68, T 13 S, R 21 E; that part of Section 4 in T 13 S, R 22 E; Section 44, T 14 S, R 21 E; and Sections 6 and 45, T 14 S, R 22 E. Said right-of-way to construct a 10-inch common carrier products pipeline is hereby granted to cross aforementioned Commission property, provided the Shell Pipe Line Corporation agrees to certain terms and conditions as stipulated in the agreement which shall be binding upon said corporation for the protection and benefit of the wildlife and fisheries resources in the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Ensminger then told the Commission that the next item on the agenda to be considered by the Commission is the request of the Sea Robin Pipeline Company to conduct surveys on the State Wildlife Refuge. Mr. Ensminger continued by stating that this proposal has been examined and found to be in order provided said company shall agree to certain terms and conditions which shall be binding upon the company for the interest and protection of the wildlife and fisheries resources in the area.

On motion of Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Sea Robin Pipeline Company to conduct a survey across the Commission's State Wildlife Refuge, in Vermilion Parish. Said permission is granted provided the Sea Robin Pipeline Company agrees to adhere to certain terms and conditions as stipulated in the agreement which shall be binding upon said company for the protection and interest of the natural resources in the area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and directed to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Easminger then requested that a committee be appointed to meet with the State Mineral Board's Fact Finding Committee on March 26 to discuss the possibility of increasing the mineral activities on the Superior Lease at Rockefeller Refuge.

Chairman Jones stated that all Commission Members are invited to attend the meeting. However, it was decided that the Committee would be Mr. Winfree, Mr. Kyle, Mr. Wright and Mr. Jones since the other Commission members would not be available to attend this meeting.

Chairman Jones then called on Mr. Joe Herring to discuss the next item.

Mr. Herring said recently the Tensas Parish Police Jury adopted a resolution requesting the Commission to reduce the limit of white perch taken from Lake Bruin to 20, with a possession limit of 40. Mr. Herring explained that the matter has been investigated by the Commission biologists and it was discovered that the present creel limits would not harm the fish population as this would still allow the brood fish to reproduce populations for the following years. Other factors were also considered. Mr. Herring then recommended that the Commission take no action.

After further discussion, it was decided that the creel limits are set on a statewide basis by the legislature. Also, it would be different from the statewide creel limits and this would be confusing to visiting sportsmen to the lake who would not be familiar with this limit. The Commission, therefore, unanimously decided to take no further action on the matter.

Mr. Herring then told the Commission of the notification of the completion of the fencing contract around the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area. This project of approximately 14 miles of fencing and rights-of-way being disked and planted as specified in the contract have been inspected by Commission personnel and found to be in accordance with the contract. Mr. Herring therefore recommended Commission approval on the acceptance of the completion of said contract.

On motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Morris, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has been notified of the completion of the contract with Hurricane Fence Company, Metairie, Louisiana, for the construction of approximately fourteen (14) miles of fencing on the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, personnel of the Commission have inspected the completed job and found it to be in complete accord with the terms and specifications of the contract, thereby recommending Commission approval on the acceptance of completion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby accept and approve of the completion of the contract with Hurricane Fence Company of Metairie, Louisiana, in accordance with the terms and conditions contained therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and is hereby authorized and directed to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Herring then explained a request was received from Mr. Fred A. Kadane, Jr., Oil Operator and Producer, who was recently awarded the lease No. 5187, Tract No. 10899, Ouachita Parish, located on the Russell Sage W. M. A. Originally, the Louisiana State Mineral Board had advertised for the lease sale on this tract of land and Mr. Kadane was awarded the sale. Presently, Mr. Kadane is interested in reassigning this lease. Mr. Herring, therefore, recommended Commission approval on this request with the provision that the new Lessee understands all of the terms and conditions as originally

stipulated shall remain binding upon the holder of the lease.

On motion of Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that permission is hereby granted to Mr. Fred A. Kadane, Jr., Oil Operator and Producer of Dallas, Texas, to reassign his mineral lease No. 5187, Tract No. 10899, Ouachita Parish, situated on the Commission owned Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. Permission is hereby granted to Mr. Kadane to reassign his lease to Mr. Robert E. Niegel provided it is clearly understood that Mr. Niegel shall agree to fulfill all of the terms and conditions as set forth in the original agreement, between the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and Mr. Fred A. Kadane, Jr.

Mr. Herring then said the next item on the agenda is the acceptance of completion of the contract for the construction of the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area headquarter building. Said construction was completed by Mr. Edgar A. Williams of Alexandria, Louisiana. Mr. Herring said the project was thoroughly inspected by Clay Wright, Commission Member, J. B. Kidd, District VI Supervisor, Edgar A. Williams, Contractor, William Baker, Architect and himself and found to be in accord with all terms and conditions as set forth in the contract. He then recommended Commission acceptance on the completion of this project.

On motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kyle, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was notified by the architect, William R. Baker, of the completion of the contract for the construction of the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area headquarter building, completed by Edgar A. Williams, of Alexandria, Louisiana, contractor and it has been recommended that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission grant approval on the acceptance of same.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby approve the acceptance of completion of the construction of the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area headquarter building as constructed by Edgar A. Williams, of Alexandria, Louisiana, contractor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Herring then said that many requests have been received for an extension on the open season for commercial fishing in Lake Verett. Mr. Herring said the proposal had been examined and found to be in order as it is estimated that if an extension is granted, the fish population will in no way be endangered.

On motion of Mr. Winfree, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission did receive numerous requests for an extension of the commercial fishing season on Lake Verett, and

WHEREAS, Commission biologists did investigate the possibility and found an extension to be most beneficial as it would in no way endanger the fish population in the lake.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant an extension on the commercial fishing season in Lake Verett, the dates of extension shall be March 29, 1969 and to continue through April 13, 1969. The issuance of permits to the commercial fishermen shall still be in effect during said period of extension. Those fishermen who do not have a permit and wish to fish the lake shall have to obtain a permit.

Chairman Jones then explained that the Mississippi River Diversion project has been in progress for quite some time; however, he said it is time the people started to look around them and take action to protect Louisiana. The Commission can take action in this area, explained Chairman Jones, however, steps must be taken immediately as we are already behind. Chairman Jones suggested that the Director be instructed to study this project closely and come up with some suggestions on the matter.

Mr. Winfree also commented on the matter by stating that the project, if completed as proposed, would be disastrous to the State of Louisiana. He continued by comparing the fact that the people are so concerned with building the dome stadium, but that they should be concerned with the problem at hand which concerns the future of the State of Louisiana. If the river is diverted to west Texas, Louisiana would lose much.

Mr. Thompson concurred with Mr. Winfree and stated that he too had recently read much in the news about this project and its harmful effects. Mr. Thompson said he was not sure, but it is said to be the largest project of this nature in the Texas history. He continued by stating that in actuality, they are constructing this diversion channel with a portion of Louisiana's money also, while the people stand by and see their state destroyed.

Mr. Kyle said that if this project is permitted, the marshes would become salt water marshes and this change would probably reach as far up as Baton Rouge. He said that in addition to the harm to the wildlife in the area, it would also have a tremendous effect on the people in the State of Louisiana and not only a small portion of the state.

On motion of Mr. Winfree, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the Director, Clark M. Hoffpauer, be appointed to set up a special task force to discuss and plan and work for the future coordination of the project known as the Mississippi River Diversion Channel in order to protect the people and wildlife of the State of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith in order that the above directive can be properly established and put into effect, whereby the citizens, wildlife and future of the

State of Louisiana will benefit and be protected to the utmost.

Mr. Hoffpauer then explained to the Commission that steps are already in progress to halt this project; however, it is a matter of working research data against the force of finances. After further discussion, the Commission reiterated its request for the protection of Louisiana. Mr. Kyle motioned to amend Mr. Winfree's motion to stipulate that this project have first priority and that any and all Commission personnel be ordered to work on the project of stopping the Mississippi River Diversion Channel. Mr. Winfree agreed with Mr. Kyle and also added that the research data and reports of this detrimental diversion channel be forwarded to the State Legislature and also the Washington delegation.

On motion of Mr. Kyle, seconded by Mr. Winfree, the following amendment was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission that the following amendment be added to the previous resolution adopted by the Commission:

BE IT RESOLVED that reports of the research and data presently being compiled by the various State Agencies working in coordination to stop the Mississippi River Diversion Channel construction be forwarded to the Louisiana State Legislature and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation in order that they too may be aware of the future danger and detriment of the State of Louisiana.

Chairman Jones then recognized Mr. Hoffpauer for the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Hoffpauer explained that recently he was attending the National Wildlife Federation meeting in Washington, D. C. where he had the opportunity to see first hand the various workings of the organization. One of the phases was the award for the best publication by the state department of conservation which was awarded to the State of Texas. Mr. Hoffpauer said it was by far one of the best conservation publications he had ever seen. The reason was that the book was entirely in color and completely illustrated. Mr. Hoffpauer inquired as to the cost and found where Louisiana too could have our publication printed at comparatively the same price. The reason being that if we had our book published locally, it would eliminate the cost of transporting the material back and forth. Also, there are new and more modern printing presses which can produce color publications more inexpensively. Mr. Hoffpauer suggested that the Commission request the Louisiana Division of Administration to readvertise for the contract on the Louisiana Conservationist.

On motion of Mr. Guidry, seconded by Mr. Kyle, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, it has been discovered that it is possible to print the Louisiana Conservationist, the publication of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, in color, rather than in black and white, at comparatively the same cost.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby request the Louisiana Division of Administration to readvertise for bids on the contract issued for

the purpose of printing the Louisiana Conservationist, in order that Louisiana too might also have the opportunity to make said publication more appealing to the citizens of Louisiana, and sportsmen in particular.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents in connection therewith.

Mr. Hoffpauer then reported to the Commission on the Waddill Tract. He stated that the matter was brought to the attention of the Attorney General's office as it was thought that this land could be lost if it was not properly maintained or if it were transferred to another State agency. Mr. Hoffpauer explained that the Waddill tract is too small to be developed into a wildlife management area. Also, most of the property surrounding it has been developed into subdivisions. Therefore, it has been speculated that the most advantageous utilization of this property would be to develop same into a recreational area. Since this is not the business of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, it is suggested that this land be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Commission for further development. Mr. Hoffpauer explained in order for this transfer to take place, certain legal aspects must be considered. Then, after various legal matters have been clarified, a bill must be introduced into the legislature. Mr. Hoffpauer, therefore, requested Commission approval to initiate said legislation.

On motion of Mr. Winfree, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, in past years, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has made many attempts to improve and maintain the Waddill Tract, in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana; however, all attempts have proven futile due to vandals destroying the property.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission is desirous of transferring the Waddill Tract to the Louisiana Parks and Recreation Commission, which would necessitate an Act of the Louisiana Legislature in order to transfer any state owned property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director be and he is hereby authorized and directed to notify, report and inform all of the East Baton Rouge Parish State Legislators of the existing situation involving the Waddill Tract in order for the proper procedure to be followed to encourage the passage of legislation for the transferral of said property.

Chairman Jones then recognized Mr. Thompson for the next subject.

Mr. Thompson explained that recently he had heard rumors that the Commission was hiring personnel over the age of 65. He, therefore, stated that it is the policy of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission to retire all of its employees at the age of 65.

Chairman Jones then asked if there was any other business to come before the Commission. There being none, he continued by reminding all present that the next regular monthly Commission meeting would be held on the fifth Tuesday, April 29th, due to the shrimp meeting which would be held at Grand Terre Marine Lab on April 24th.

There being no further business to come before the Commission,
on motion of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Wright, the meeting was
adjourned.

Clark M. Hoffpauer
Director